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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In the disclosed pulse shape modulation method,
an amplitude modulation gain for a reproduced signal
5 from an information recording medium that makes the
jitter of the reproduced signal become the minimum is
specified. Then, it is determined whether the
amplitude modulation gain corresponding to the
minimum jitter resides within a prescribed range. If
10 the amplitude modulation gain corresponding to the
minimum jitter is outside the prescribed range, the
pulse shape of the pulsed laser beam is modulated.